



Rep. Marlow H. Colvin

Filed: 5/24/2005

09400HB2011ham002

LRB094 02842 NHT 46971 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 2011

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Bill 2011 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the the following:

4 "Section 5. The Grow Our Own Teacher Education Act is  
5 amended by changing Sections 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, and 35 as  
6 follows:

7 (110 ILCS 48/5)

8 Sec. 5. Purpose. The Grow Our Own Teacher preparation  
9 programs established under this Act shall comprise a major new  
10 statewide initiative, known as the Grow Our Own Teacher  
11 Education Initiative, to prepare highly skilled, committed  
12 teachers who will teach in hard-to-staff schools and  
13 hard-to-staff teaching positions and who will remain in these  
14 schools for substantial periods of time.

15 The Grow Our Own Teacher Education Initiative shall  
16 effectively recruit and prepare parent and community leaders  
17 and paraeducators to become effective teachers ~~and teacher~~  
18 ~~leaders~~ statewide in hard-to-staff schools and hard-to-staff  
19 teaching positions in schools serving a substantial percentage  
20 of low-income students. Further, the Initiative shall increase  
21 the diversity of teachers, including diversity based on race,  
22 ethnicity, and disability.

23 The Grow Our Own Teacher Education Initiative shall ensure  
24 educational rigor by effectively preparing candidates ~~students~~

1 in accredited bachelor's degree programs in teaching, through  
2 which graduates shall meet the requirements to secure an  
3 Illinois initial standard teaching certificate.

4 The goal of the Grow Our Own Teacher Education Initiative  
5 is to add 1,000 teachers to low-income and other hard-to-staff  
6 Illinois schools by 2016 with an average retention period of 7  
7 years, as opposed to the current rate of 2.5 years for new  
8 teachers in such areas.

9 (Source: P.A. 93-802, eff. 1-1-05.)

10 (110 ILCS 48/10)

11 Sec. 10. Definitions. In this Act:

12 "Accredited teacher preparation program" means a State or  
13 regionally accredited higher education program authorized to  
14 prepare individuals to fulfill all of the requirements to  
15 receive an Illinois initial standard teaching certificate.

16 "Hard-to-staff school" means an elementary or secondary  
17 school that, based on data compiled by the State Board of  
18 Education, ranks in the upper third of schools in this State on  
19 a combined index measuring the percentage of the school's  
20 teachers who are not fully certified and the percentage of the  
21 school's teachers who leave their positions annually.

22 "Hard-to-staff teaching position" means a teaching  
23 category (such as special education, mathematics, or science)  
24 in which statewide data compiled by the State Board of  
25 Education indicates a multi-year pattern of substantial  
26 teacher shortage or that has been identified as a critical need  
27 by the local school board.

28 "Initiative" means the Grow Our Own Teacher Education  
29 Initiative created under this Act.

30 "Paraeducators" means individuals with a history of  
31 demonstrated accomplishments in school staff positions (such  
32 as teacher assistants, school-community liaisons, school  
33 clerks, and security aides) in schools serving a substantial

1 percentage of low-income students.

2 "Parent and community leaders" means individuals with a  
3 ~~significant~~ history of working to improve involvement in  
4 ~~improving~~ schools serving a substantial percentage of  
5 low-income students, including membership in a community  
6 organization.

7 "Community organization" means a nonprofit organization  
8 that has a demonstrated capacity to train, develop, and  
9 organize parents and community leaders into a constituency that  
10 will hold the school and the school district accountable for  
11 achieving high academic standards; in addition to  
12 organizations with a geographic focus, "community  
13 organization" includes general parent organizations,  
14 organizations of special education or bilingual education  
15 parents, and school employee unions.

16 "Program" means a Grow Our Own Teacher preparation program  
17 established by a consortium under this Act.

18 "Schools serving a substantial percentage of low-income  
19 students" means schools whose percentage of students receiving  
20 free or reduced-price lunches is at or above the  
21 district-average percentage.

22 "State Board" means the State Board of Education.

23 (Source: P.A. 93-802, eff. 1-1-05.)

24 (110 ILCS 48/20)

25 Sec. 20. Selection of grantees. The State Board shall award  
26 grants to up to 10 qualified consortia that reflect the  
27 distribution and diversity of target hard-to-staff schools  
28 across this State. In awarding grants, the State Board shall  
29 select programs that successfully address Initiative criteria  
30 and that reflect a diversity of strategies in terms of serving  
31 urban areas, serving rural areas, the nature of the  
32 participating institutions of higher education, whether  
33 participants will be trained at the baccalaureate or graduate

1 ~~master's~~ level, and the nature of hard-to-staff teaching  
2 positions on which a program is focused.

3 The State Board shall select consortia that meet the  
4 following requirements:

5 (1) A consortium shall be composed of at least one  
6 4-year institution of higher education with an accredited  
7 teacher preparation program, at least one school district  
8 or group of schools, and one or more community  
9 organizations. The consortium may also include a 2-year  
10 institution of higher education or a school employee union  
11 or both.

12 (2) The 4-year institution of higher education  
13 participating in the consortium shall have past,  
14 demonstrated success in preparing teachers for elementary  
15 or secondary schools serving a substantial percentage of  
16 low-income students.

17 (3) The consortium shall focus on a clearly defined set  
18 of target schools serving a substantial percentage of  
19 low-income students that will be the primary focus of the  
20 program. The consortium shall articulate the steps that it  
21 will carry out in preparing teachers for its target  
22 hard-to-staff schools and in preparing teachers for one or  
23 more hard-to-staff teaching positions in its target  
24 schools.

25 (4) Candidate ~~Student~~ participants in a program under  
26 the Initiative must hold a high school diploma or its  
27 equivalent and must meet either the definition of "parent  
28 and community leaders" or the definition of  
29 "paraeducators" contained in Section 10 of this Act.

30 (5) The consortium shall employ effective procedures  
31 for teaching the skills and knowledge needed to prepare  
32 highly competent teachers. Professional preparation  
33 ~~Instruction~~ shall include on-going direct experience in  
34 target schools and evaluation analysis of this experience.

1 (6) The consortium shall offer the program to cohorts  
2 of candidates ~~students~~ who begin by moving through the  
3 program together. The program shall be offered on a  
4 schedule that enables candidates ~~students~~ to work full time  
5 while participating in the program and allows  
6 paraeducators to continue in their current positions. The  
7 consortium shall guarantee that support will be available  
8 to an admitted cohort through the cohort's full period of  
9 training. At the beginning of the Initiative, programs that  
10 are already operating and existing cohorts of candidates  
11 ~~students~~ under this model shall be eligible for funding.

12 (7) The institutions of higher education participating  
13 in the consortium shall document and agree to expend the  
14 same amount of funds in implementing the program that these  
15 institutions spend on average per candidate ~~student~~ ~~on~~  
16 ~~similar educational programs~~. Grants received by the  
17 consortium shall supplement and not supplant these  
18 amounts.

19 (8) The State Board shall establish additional  
20 criteria for review of proposals, including criteria that  
21 address the following issues:

22 (A) Previous experience of the institutions of  
23 higher education in preparing candidates ~~students~~ for  
24 hard-to-staff schools and positions and in working  
25 with candidates ~~students~~ with non-traditional  
26 backgrounds.

27 (B) The quality of the implementation plan,  
28 including strategies for overcoming institutional  
29 barriers to the progress of non-traditional candidates  
30 ~~students~~.

31 (C) If a community college is a participant, the  
32 nature and extent of existing articulation agreements  
33 and guarantees between the community college and the  
34 4-year institution of higher education.

1 (D) The number of candidates ~~participants~~ to be  
2 trained in the current cohort or cohorts and the  
3 capacity of the consortium for adding cohorts in future  
4 cycles.

5 (E) Experience of the community organization or  
6 organizations in organizing parents and community  
7 leaders to achieve school improvement and a strong  
8 relational school culture.

9 (F) The qualifications of the person or persons  
10 designated by the 4-year institution of higher  
11 education to be responsible for cohort support and the  
12 development of a shared learning and social  
13 environment among candidates ~~participants~~.

14 (G) The consortium's plan for collective  
15 consortium decision-making, including mechanisms for  
16 community and candidate ~~participant~~ input.

17 (H) The consortium's plan for direct impact of the  
18 program on the quality of education in the target  
19 schools.

20 (I) The relevance of the curriculum to the needs of  
21 targeted schools and positions, and the use in  
22 curriculum and instructional planning of principles  
23 for effective education of adults ~~adult education~~.

24 (J) The availability of classes under the program  
25 in places and times accessible to the candidates  
26 ~~participants~~.

27 (K) Provision of a level of performance to be  
28 maintained by candidates ~~participants~~ as a condition  
29 of continuing in the program.

30 (L) The plan of the 4-year institution of higher  
31 education to ensure that candidates ~~students~~ take  
32 advantage of existing financial aid resources before  
33 using the loan funds described in Section 25 of this  
34 Act.

1 (M) The availability of supportive services,  
2 including counseling, tutoring, and child care.

3 (N) A plan for continued participation of  
4 graduates of the program in a program of support for at  
5 least 2 years, including mentoring and group meetings.

6 (O) A plan for testing and qualitative evaluation  
7 of candidates' ~~participants'~~ teaching skills that  
8 ensures that graduates of the program are as prepared  
9 for teaching as other individuals completing the  
10 institution of higher education's preparation program  
11 for the certificate sought ~~those from the conventional~~  
12 ~~teacher training program of the 4-year institution of~~  
13 ~~higher education.~~

14 (P) A plan for internal evaluation that provides  
15 reports at least yearly on the progress of candidates  
16 ~~participants~~ towards graduation and the impact of the  
17 program on the target schools and their communities.

18 (Q) Contributions from schools, school districts,  
19 and other consortia members to the program, including  
20 stipends for candidates ~~participants~~ during their  
21 student teaching.

22 (R) Consortium commitment for sustaining the  
23 program over time, as evidenced by plans for reduced  
24 requirements for external funding in subsequent  
25 cycles.

26 (Source: P.A. 93-802, eff. 1-1-05.)

27 (110 ILCS 48/25)

28 Sec. 25. Expenditures under the Initiative.

29 (a) Every program under the Initiative shall implement and  
30 manage a program of forgivable loans to cover any portion of  
31 tuition and direct expenses of candidates ~~students~~ under the  
32 program in excess of grants-in-aid and other forgivable loans  
33 received. All candidates ~~students~~ admitted to a cohort shall be

1 eligible for such loans. Loans shall be fully forgiven if a  
2 graduate completes 5 years of service in a hard-to-staff school  
3 or hard-to-staff teaching position.

4 (b) Grants under the Initiative shall be awarded in such a  
5 way as to provide the required support for a cohort of  
6 candidates ~~students~~ for the cohort's entire training period.  
7 Program budgets must show expenditures for the entire period  
8 that candidates ~~participants~~ are expected to be enrolled.

9 (c) No funds under the Initiative may be used to supplant  
10 the average per-capita expenditures by the institution of  
11 higher education for candidates ~~students in regular education~~  
12 ~~degree programs~~.

13 (d) Where necessary, program budgets shall include the  
14 costs of child care to permit candidates ~~parents~~ to maintain a  
15 full class schedule. Child care may be provided by the  
16 community organization or organizations or be independently  
17 contracted for.

18 (e) The institution of higher education may expend grant  
19 funds to cover the salary of a site-based cohort coordinator,  
20 who must be housed at each cooperating institution of higher  
21 education that has a program, and the additional costs of  
22 offering classes in community settings and for tutoring  
23 services.

24 (f) The community organization or organizations may  
25 receive a portion of the grant money for the expenses of  
26 recruitment, community orientation, and counseling of  
27 potential candidates ~~participants~~, for providing space in the  
28 community, and for working with school personnel to facilitate  
29 individual work experiences and support of candidates  
30 ~~participants~~.

31 (g) The school district or school employee union or both  
32 may receive a portion of the grant money for expenses of  
33 supporting the work experiences of candidates ~~participants~~ and  
34 providing mentors for graduates. School districts may also use

1 these or other applicable public funds to pay participants in  
2 programs under the Initiative for student teaching required by  
3 an accredited teacher preparation program. Nothing contained  
4 in Section 10-20.15 of the School Code shall prohibit or  
5 restrict any such payments.

6 (Source: P.A. 93-802, eff. 1-1-05.)

7 (110 ILCS 48/30)

8 Sec. 30. Implementation of Initiative. The State Board  
9 shall develop guidelines and application procedures for the  
10 Initiative in fiscal year 2005. The State Board may, if it  
11 chooses, award a small number of planning grants during fiscal  
12 year 2005 to potential consortia using existing resources. The  
13 first programs under the Initiative shall be awarded grants in  
14 such a way as to allow candidates ~~participants~~ to begin their  
15 work at the beginning of the 2005-2006 school year.

16 (Source: P.A. 93-802, eff. 1-1-05.)

17 (110 ILCS 48/35)

18 Sec. 35. Independent program evaluation. The State Board  
19 shall contract for an independent evaluation of program  
20 implementation by each of its participating consortia and of  
21 the impact of each program, including the extent of candidate  
22 ~~student~~ persistence in program enrollment, acceptance as an  
23 education major in a 4-year institution of higher education,  
24 completion of a bachelor's degree in teaching, obtaining a  
25 teaching position in a target school or similar school,  
26 subsequent effectiveness as a teacher, and persistence in  
27 teaching in a target school or similar school. The evaluation  
28 shall assess the Initiative's overall effectiveness and shall  
29 identify particular program strategies that are especially  
30 effective.

31 (Source: P.A. 93-802, eff. 1-1-05.)".